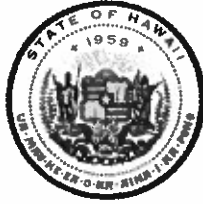


Resolution 20-120 Testimony

MISC. COM. 336

P.4b

PH



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 3, 2020

The Honorable Ikaika Anderson, Chair
The Honorable Ann Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the Honolulu City Council

Honolulu Hale
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

As the Hawaii State Senate Housing Committee Chair, I write to express my support of Resolution 20-120, Amending the Downtown Neighborhood Transit-Oriented Development Plan. The amendment allows much needed housing to be built up to 400 feet and increases the FAR to 4.5.

As you know, Hawaii faces a critical housing shortage. A 2015 DBEDT study estimates that Hawaii will need 65,000 housing units between 2015 and 2025. Given Hawaii's consensus that we should avoid developing agricultural or conservation land, redeveloping urban lands with greater density, especially those within walking distance of future rail stations, is the only means available to produce enough housing supply to meet demand. This amendment is a clear example of an ideal site for dense, walkable, mixed use development that will comprise the future communities of Hawaii.

Recently, we have seen our medical professionals step up to the challenges and risks of COVID-19. We have seen our school teachers committed to educating our keiki from their homes. Our kupuna have been socially distancing to avoid wide-spread community infection. But perhaps the greatest sacrifice we risk as a community is a mass exodus of as many as 30,000 local people to better job opportunities on the mainland. While Hawaii faces an unprecedented economic challenge with the pandemic, I am concerned that many of our residents will have no other choice than to leave Hawaii. Your leadership in facilitating high quality housing development will set the pace to recovery.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Senator Stanley Chang
Senate District 9

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 8:09 AM
Subject: Council//Public Hearing Speaker Registration/Testimony

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Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Choon James
Phone 808 293 8888
Email ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com
Meeting Date 06-03-2020
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Resolution 20-120, CD1
Your position on the matter Comment
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

Aloha City Council members,

As you know, portions of this Honolulu Rail route is projected to be in the Honolulu Sea Level Rise Inundation Zone. Why are we continuing to pour massive amounts of money into this? STOP at Middle Street and come up with a more modernized options and methods of transportation.

Written Testimony Additionally, TOD developments can happen without the massive FIXED rail route. It could happen around a bus terminal or the council can designate "Special District".

We cannot afford to keep dumping precious money into this runaway rail.

Mahalo,

Choon James

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67